

Business Girls Cheer Convalescent Soldiers



A BUSINESS woman in one of the big buildings in lower Manhattan went to the army hospital at the port of embarkation, Hoboken, one day last fall to visit a sick soldier. She was an observing young woman and saw at a glance that not only the soldier but many of his comrades lacked little things that go to make the life of a young man comfortable. When she repeated her visit the following week she carried in her knitting bag a few toilet articles and some cigarettes, which she distributed.

Later, during her luncheon hours, she interested fellow workers in the financial district in the small needs of sick soldiers, and each day gained recruits.

The idea was as catching as measles and it wasn't long before the volunteers found it necessary to establish an organization to carry on the work. And that's how the Business Women's Aid for Hospital Soldiers was started, with headquarters at 36 New street.

The organization is unique in that it hasn't any officers or executive committee or constitution or by-laws, or anything else that makes for red tape. It simply runs its business machinery by means of committees—one woman as a rule constitutes a committee.

The principal mission of the B. W. A. is to supply, as far as its means will enable, tooth brushes, tooth paste, talcum powder, toilet soap, shaving powder, razors, cigarettes, &c., to soldiers in hospitals, all of which are delivered by a visiting committee once a week. Its secondary object is to give convalescent

soldiers an opportunity to vary hospital existence with a few hours of home life. This is done by social evenings twice a month at the B. W. A.'s headquarters.

These events take the form of a dinner, followed by a dance or card games, or just plain sitting around, and many of the boys have pronounced the evenings among the best they have had since they said good-by to the folks back home.

Every penny received as dues, contributions, &c., is used solely for the purchase of articles that go to the hospitals. The expense of the little social functions is borne exclusively by the young women who attend them.

They are centering their efforts at present at the Hoboken Hospital, but they make a point of following up individual cases where men are transferred to other hospitals, notably No. 1, at Gun Hill road, the Bronx.

From February 2, when the officerless organization got under way, until April 20, the B. W. A. paid out for deliveries to the port of embarkation hospital a total of \$228.27, exclusive of certain direct donations of ice cream, beef capsules and other things.

The initiation fee is 25 cents and weekly dues are 10 cents, payable either weekly or monthly to Miss Katherine Murphy, who is with the American Water Works and Electric Company, 50 Broad street. Contributions of \$1 or more from members or non-members, men or women, may be sent to Miss J. P. Mearns, care of William A. Hazard & Co., 29 Broadway.

Miss H. Schneider, with Spencer Trask & Co., 25 Broad street, has charge of B. W. A. nickel boxes, which are distributed among people known to be reli-

able. A nickel box in a busy office is a daily reminder to everybody from the boss down to the office boy to help the business women help the boys.

Above a tea room at 36 New street, where the B. W. A. has its home gatherings for the soldiers, is a clubroom belonging to boys employed by the International Paper Company, and a section of this space has been set aside by the club for the use of the organization. Here the business women and their friends come with donations of magazines, books, victrola records, razors (old and new) and cretonne for B. W. A. handy bags. Here packages for weekly distribution at the hospitals are made ready.

The "home parties" take place in the tea room on the second floor, of which Mrs. Amarilla Meredith is the proprietor. Mrs. Meredith has a son in the navy and her mother heart goes out to the soldier and sailor sons of other mothers. That's why she has donated her room, and serves at cost dinners to the business women and the twenty boys from the Hoboken hospital, whom the commander, Major T. C. Quiek, gives permission to attend twice a month.

Each woman who goes to a party pays for her own and for a soldier's dinner. Tables are set for two women and two soldiers. Then comes dancing to the music of a phonograph, which was purchased with funds raised by Mrs. C. G. Aced of S. Ferrer & Co., 23 Beaver street.

Miss M. M. Cahill, with the Vacuum Oil Company, 61 Broadway, purchases and makes ready for distribution all toilet articles that go to the soldiers.

Miss Ethel Ewell of the New York Underwriters' Agency, 100 William street,

purchases and marks with "B. W. A." all cigarettes. At least 600 cigarettes are delivered each Saturday.

Miss Daisy Harlin of the Rubber Association of America, 17 Battery place, buys white handkerchiefs in large quantities in sanitary packages.

Miss M. Emerson, with Spencer Trask & Co., 25 Broad street, purchases memorandum books and solicits or purchases lead pencils which are delivered weekly. One concern contributed 1,000 pencils recently.

Miss Hilda Berry, with William Salmon & Co., 25 Broad street, buys picture post cards bearing New York views and affixes a 2 cent stamp to each, so a card will be ready for instant mailing when a fellow feels like writing home. Miss Berry also collects games and playing cards and makes picture puzzles by cutting up old, used post cards into odd shapes, which sick soldiers enjoy putting together when they are too tired to think hard.

Miss Claribel Nichols of Doherty & Co., 60 Wall street, collects novels and magazines of all descriptions, not more than four months old.

Miss A. M. Page of Job & Co., 29 Broadway, receives donations of wool. Friends of the "B. W. A." with knitting machines will knit it all into socks.

Miss B. Polsen, with the Board of Trade of the New York Produce Exchange, collects old razors and razor blades. She has them put in good condition, sterilizes them and wraps them for delivery.

The "B. W. A." selected the Hoboken hospital for its initial activities because it is readily accessible to the Wall street district.

Two Physicians For Body Politic

(Continued from preceding page.)

The differentiation is of especial value to the 80 per cent., for the 20 per cent. will eventually get into high schools and college and can well take care of themselves.

"The training of the school should be for the making of power—to give to the pupil those fundamentals, power and precision. For six years in the elementary schools, then, the child should have a general training, and in the beginning of the seventh year should begin the training for aptitudes.

"Such training is directed along three lines, academic, commercial and industrial. In the industrial lines the child may be trained in trade processes and come in contact with practical life by rotating from one trade to another as he seeks one for which he has a special aptitude and he is taught to realize the dignity of labor. This is true vocational guidance. It is better than psychology and theory.

"If a pupil is not suited to industrial or mechanical work he may be tried in commercial training, and if neither seems adapted for him it may be found that, after all, he is better suited for an academic career.

"This method is democratizing education. This is where it differs from the

Gary plan, which consists largely of set formulas based on economic housing. It differs also from manual training, which is often led into mere theory rather than directed to the making of usable products."

Dr. Ettinger is a firm believer in the fundamentals of an education. He regards it of prime importance that the pupils should be precise and efficient in reading, writing, spelling and English composition and that they should have a good working knowledge of history and civics.

He is also a zealous upholder of the education of the foreign population in the use of the English language and in the ideals of Americanism. He has been interested especially in the schools for men of alien birth which have been established here in the last few months in connection with the industrial establishments and in the so-called foreign quarters of the city.

On the lapel of his coat appears an enamelled pin in the form of a service flag bearing two stars, which means that two of his sons are "over there." William L. Ettinger, Jr., is in the ambulance service and recently was gassed while taking a wounded man from the trenches. The second son, Albert, is a private in the old Sixty-ninth Regiment, now the 165th. He was under age when he enlisted, but went with the consent of his father. Dr. Ettinger has a third son 15 years old.

The new superintendent is fond of outdoor sports, is a good golf player, takes an interest in yachting, is something of an oarsman and likes to go fishing.

Colleoni Statue Saved From Hun

VENICE, threatened by the Austrians, took steps to protect her buildings, paintings and sculptures. Among the first objects of her solicitude was the equestrian statue of Bartolomeo Colleoni, pronounced by many critics the finest statue in the world. Bartolomeo was unhorsed and laid away; later his steed as well was taken from its pedestal and hidden. This gave an opportunity for the first time since the monument to the great soldier was erected in 1496 to study its details and to photograph them at close range.

In modern years great controversy has raged among connoisseurs as to what part Alexander Leopardus played in perfecting the masterpiece, and just how much credit Verrochio, who conceived and began it, but died before its completion, was entitled to. Close scrutiny has convinced Corrado Ricci, Director-General of Antiquities and Beaux Arts for Italy, that Leopardus did little more than embellish

the monument with elaborate ornaments on the armor, bridle, stirrups and saddle, which might well have been omitted. This conclusion is borne out by the fact that Leopardus was a painter, not a sculptor, and by ancient documents, newly reexamined, which speak of him as having been engaged to "perfect" the statue.

Colleoni was the last of the great Venetian warriors, an adventurer of truly Prussian spirit. When a delegation of Venetian Senators went to see him on his deathbed, he said to them: "Never give to another General the power which you entrusted to me; I could have used it much worse than I did."

And indeed he seems never to have desired conquest for its own sake; his ambition was set upon amassing a great fortune in booty, which he did and retired. Venice, however, was most grateful to him for many wise laws, hence the monument.

Gabriel Faure, writing in *L'Illustration*, wittily remarks that the Italians did well to hide the statue, "for if the Germans ever got their fingers on it, they would carry it off as the world's supreme expression in art of their ideal—the apotheosis of brutal force. But Verrochio has idealized their fifteenth century prototype, he has invested Colleoni with the grace, nobility and beauty which the Germans of to-day utterly lack, but which they would like to think is theirs."